Client Reference: B6-B EV590025727US

REMARKS

Objection to the Specification

The specification was objected to because of informalities in the Cross Reference to Related Applications.

In response, the Cross Reference to Related Applications has been amended to remedy the informalities. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-2 and 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,735,174 to Hefty, et al. ("Hefty").

Claims 1-2 and 6-7 have been canceled. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully requests that the amendments above be entered and further request consideration in light of these remarks. All remarks are made in a good faith effort to advance the prosecution on the merits. Applicants reserve the right to subsequently take up prosecution on the claims as originally filed in this or appropriate continuation, continuation-in-part and/or divisional applications.

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SUMMARY

In light of the above amendments and remarks Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and early notice of the same is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record by telephone or facsimile.

Applicants believe that there are no fees due in association with the filing of this Response. However, should the Commissioner deem that any fees are due, including any fees for extensions of time, Applicants respectfully request that the Commissioner accept this as a Petition Therefor, and direct that any and all fees due are charged to Baker Botts L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 02-0383, (formerly Baker & Botts, L.L.P.) Order Number 069099.0107.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P. (023640)

Ronald L. Chichester

Registration No. 36,765

One Shell Plaza

910 Louisiana Street

Houston, Texas 77002-4995

Telephone: 713.229.1341

Facsimile: 713.229.7741

EMail: Ronald.Chichester@bakerbotts.com

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS

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